

Whereas additional information about tsunami preparedness may be obtained through TsunamiReady at National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, at www.tsunamiready.noaa.gov: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 2011 as “Tsunami Awareness Month”; and

(2) encourages the Federal Government, States, localities, schools, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and other applicable entities, along with the people of the United States, to observe Tsunami Awareness Month with appropriate events and activities to promote tsunami preparedness.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 285. Mr. ROCKEFELLER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, to reauthorize and improve the SBIR and STTR programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 286. Mr. INOUE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 285. Mr. ROCKEFELLER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, to reauthorize and improve the SBIR and STTR programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 83, strike lines 8 and 9 and insert the following:

“(v) the names and titles of the key individuals that will carry out the project, the position each key individual holds in the small business concern, and contact information for each key individual;

On page 85, strike lines 22 through 24 and insert the following:

“(i) convicted of a fraud-related crime involving funding received under the SBIR program or STTR program; or

“(ii) found civilly liable for a fraud-related violation involving funding received under the SBIR program or STTR program.”; and

On page 89, strike line 18 and all that follows through page 90, line 10, and insert the following:

“(A) continue the most recent study under this section relating to the issues described in subparagraphs (A), (B), (C), and (E) of subsection (a)(1);

“(B) make recommendations with respect to the issues described in subparagraphs (A), (D), and (E) of subsection (a)(2); and

On page 95, line 7, strike “the waste,” and all that follows through “2011” on line 10 and insert “waste, fraud, and abuse prevention activities”.

On page 96, line 13, strike the quotation marks and the second period and insert the following:

“(4) COORDINATION WITH IG.—Each Federal agency shall coordinate the activities funded under subparagraph (E), (F), or (G) of paragraph (1) with their respective Inspectors General, when appropriate, and each Federal agency that allocates more than \$50,000,000 to the SBIR program of the Federal agency for a fiscal year may share such funding with its Inspector General when the Inspector General performs such activities.”.

On page 99, strike lines 17 through 19 and insert the following:

(1) AMENDMENTS REQUIRED FOR FRAUD, WASTE, AND ABUSE PREVENTION.—Not later

On page 100, strike line 1 and all that follows through page 102, line 4, and insert the following:

(2) CONTENT OF AMENDMENTS.—The amendments required under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) definitions or descriptions of fraud, waste, and abuse;

(B) guidelines for the monitoring and oversight of applicants to and recipients of awards under the SBIR program or the STTR program;

(C) a requirement that each Federal agency that participates in the SBIR program or STTR program include information concerning the method established by the Inspector General of the Federal agency to report fraud, waste, and abuse (including any telephone hotline or Web-based platform)—

(i) on the website of the Federal agency; and

(ii) in any solicitation or notice of funding opportunity issued by the Federal agency for the SBIR program or the STTR program; and

(D) a requirement that each applicant for and small business concern that receives funding under the SBIR program or the STTR program shall certify whether the applicant or small business concern is in compliance with the laws relating to the SBIR program and the STTR program and the conduct guidelines established under the SBIR Policy Directive and the STTR Policy Directive.

(3) CONSULTATION.—The Administrator shall develop the certification required under paragraph (2)(D) in cooperation with the Council of Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency and the Office of Advocacy of the Administration.

(4) AMENDMENT TO INSPECTOR GENERAL ACT OF 1978.—Section 4 of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(e) Each Inspector General of each establishment that is required to participate in the SBIR program or the STTR program under section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638) shall cooperate to prevent fraud, waste, and abuse in the SBIR program and the STTR program by—

“(1) establishing fraud detection indicators;

“(2) reviewing regulations and operating procedures of the Federal agencies;

“(3) coordinating information sharing between the Federal agencies, to the extent otherwise permitted under Federal law; and

“(4) improving the education and training of, and outreach to—

“(A) administrators of the SBIR program and the STTR program of each Federal agency;

“(B) applicants to the SBIR program or the STTR program; and

“(C) recipients of awards under the SBIR program or the STTR program.”.

On page 102, beginning on line 7, strike “, and every 3 years thereafter,” and insert “to establish a baseline of changes made to the program to fight fraud, waste, and abuse, and every 3 years thereafter to evaluate the effectiveness of the agency strategies.”.

On page 103, strike lines 12 through 19 and insert the following:

(vi) the extent to which the Inspector General of each Federal agency that participates in the SBIR and STTR program effectively conducts investigations, audits, inspections, and outreach relating to the SBIR and STTR programs of the Federal agency; and

On page 104, line 10, after “STTR program” insert the following: “, at least 1 Inspector General of a Federal agency with an SBIR program or an STTR program.”.

On page 107, between lines 10 and 11, insert the following:

SEC. 316. REDUCING FRAUD, WASTE, AND ABUSE.

Not later than 4 years after the date of enactment of this Act, and every 4 years thereafter, the Comptroller General of the United States shall—

(1) conduct a study of the effectiveness of the government and public databases described in section 9(k) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(k)) in reducing vulnerabilities of the SBIR program and the STTR program to fraud, waste, and abuse, particularly with respect to Federal agencies funding duplicative proposals and business concerns falsifying information in proposals;

(2) make recommendations with respect to the issues described in paragraph (1); and

(3) submit to the head of each agency described in section 108(a) of the Small Business Reauthorization Act of 2000 (15 U.S.C. 638 note), the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate, and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives a report regarding the study conducted under paragraph (1) and containing the recommendations described in paragraph (2).

SA 286. Mr. INOUE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, to reauthorize and improve the SBIR and STTR programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title V, add the following:

SEC. ____ . CONSOLIDATING UNNECESSARY DUPLICATIVE AND OVERLAPPING GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, not later than 150 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall—

(1) compile a list of Government programs and agencies selected from the Government programs and agencies with duplicative and overlapping missions identified in the March 2011 Government Accountability Office report to Congress entitled “Opportunities to Reduce Potential Duplication in Government Programs, Save Tax Dollars, and Enhance Revenue” (GAO-11-318SP); and

(2) in accordance with the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974, submit to Congress recommended amounts of rescissions of budget authority for Government programs and agencies on that list.

NOTICE OF HEARING

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I want to advise that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources will hold a business meeting on Tuesday, April 12, 2011, at 10 a.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the Business Meeting is to consider pending legislation, and the nomination of Peter B. Lyons, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (Nuclear Energy).

For further information, please contact Sam Fowler at (202) 224-7571 or Amanda Kelly at (202) 224-6836.